

18 killed as bus
ramps jeepney
in Pangasinan

Gov't eyes hike
in withholding
tax rates

Issue of Burma
excluded from IPU
agenda; tsunami tackled

Quezon City
backs 4-day
workweek

Abu Ghraib prison
attacked; 44 US
soldiers hurt

Pabor sa ikayo sa
4-day workweek?
CALLING INQUIRER
COLLEGE AND WORK Text 2510101



'The angels welcome you'

MANILA—Mourning begins for dead Pope John Paul II as it is held as if to offer a blessing to the millions praying the Rosary below his statue.

"Once the last rites proper ended, the Pope made a chapel of the world and pronounced the word, 'Veneremur' [We honor him, but don't,] Pope John Paul II," said Archbishop of Manila Cardinal Jaime Sin.

Archbishop Sin is the leader of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics.



E-mail, text spread news on Great Communicator

MANILA (AP)—Pope John Paul II's death was announced to the world via e-mail, text messages and a Twitter account, a first for a papal death.

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Monday, April 4, 2005 • 38 pages • Vol. 30 • No. 118

www.inquirer.com

WORLD WEEPS

2M due to attend funeral of extraordinary John Paul

GRIEF and praise rippled around the world Sunday for Pope John Paul II, whose death in his Vatican apartment ended a 35-year pontificate that had shaped global politics, inspired hundreds of millions of people and belatedly restored peace everywhere.

The 85-year-old spiritual leader of the Roman Catholic Church's 1.2 billion members passed away at 9:37 p.m. Sunday (12:37 a.m. Monday in the Philippines).

Two days after suffering heart and kidney failure following two months of acute breathing problems and other ailments.

More than 1.5 million people in Poland alone, John's birthplace, gathered in the streets to pray for the death of the Polish Pope who had led the world's Catholics for more than a quarter of a century.

Officials said the Italian government was expecting 2 million pilgrims to attend the funeral.

John Paul II was the first non-Italian pope to lead and a half-century, and the first from eastern Europe.

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People's Pope championed freedom

EMERGING the power of his predecessors, Pope John Paul II was over cruelty and terrorism after with his commitment to peace and fighting poverty.

His support of the Solidarity trade union when it was banned in his native communist Poland was emblematic of his approach: a challenge to the status quo that led to the fall of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War.

Through the dark years of the communist dictatorship in the 1980s, the Pope's visits, messages and prayers, often limited to an unheated room in a bleak, peeling building, kept alive a faith that liberty would eventually come.

His support for personal dignity, human rights and tolerance in predominantly Islamic Catholic Poland boosted the Solidarity movement, the first free trade union of the Soviet bloc.

His support for personal dignity, human rights and tolerance in predominantly Islamic Catholic Poland boosted the Solidarity movement, the first free trade union of the Soviet bloc.

GMA leads nation in mourning; flags at half-staff

By Christine D. Acasac and Christian S. Esguerra

CHURCH bells tolled and private pious hundreds of Mass offered in an annual church as they were joined by parishioners in grieving over the death of Pope John Paul II yesterday.

President Arroyo and Vice President Noyola expressed a "deep sense of grief" over the Pontiff's passing.

"He was a holy champion of the Filipino family and of god-fearing Christians whose death makes everyone of us sorrowful every day what a just, moral and sacred loss," he said.

Mr. Arroyo declared a period of national mourning starting today until the day that the leader of the Roman Catholic Church is laid to rest.

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POPE JOHN PAUL II
1920-2005

Not even 117 cardinals know for sure who's next pope

VATICAN CITY—With the death of Pope John Paul II, a chain of events laid down by centuries of papal tradition swung into action, but who will emerge as the next pontiff is a guess-no-one knows for sure.

A pope from Italy, according to tradition, the Italian pontiff? How

about Latin America, or India? No one knows for sure until those who might have an idea—the cardinals who will actually choose the next leader of the world's 1.2 billion Roman Catholics—actually start voting.

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PNP chief: We're ready to meet Abu threat

By Lajla A. del Puente

"PNP prepared to meet the threat," said Director General Antonio Linares in a statement to the press after a meeting with the Abu Sayyaf group in Manila. Linares said the PNP is ready to meet the threat.

"We are ready to meet the threat," Linares said. "We are ready to meet the threat."

Linares, who was earlier reported killed during a military attack last year, surfaced and issued a statement to the press. He said the PNP is ready to meet the threat.

In an interview, he said the PNP is ready to meet the threat. He said the PNP is ready to meet the threat.

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Four-day workweek starts today

By Christine G. Arellano

ALL EMPLOYEES of the national government will work only four days a week beginning today to promote savings for the government and other firms a reprieve from rising oil prices which hit new records over the weekend.

In the next two months, employees of all national government agencies will be required to report the work from Monday to Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for a total of 12 hours a day.

In effect, they will get one day off from work that will allow them the same pay.

Senior Deputy Executive Secretary Nilda Flores, however, warned that employees who would come after 7:30

a.m. will be considered tardy.

Flores said there was no provision for government employees to offset their tardiness by staying after 4:30 p.m.

Pres. Secretary Ignacio Bener said that government employees would be able to make up tardiness and overtime that they usually spend when coming to work for a 5th day.

He said, however, that employees would have to work 17 hours a day.

Interacted over BBN radio, Bener said that the change would enable the government to save 75 to 100 million in two months from reduced costs, problems, absenteeism and other office expenses.

"Let's observe this experiment and see how it goes," said Bener.

Under Administrative Order No. 117,

enacted from the four-day weekend are the national police, forest guards, firemen, jail guards, coast guard, customs and internal revenue bureau, government hospitals, health centers, public schools and universities with previously semester classes, and other government offices rendering vital public services.

Also exempted are the agencies under the Office of the President, namely the Office of the Executive Secretary, Presidential Security Group, Information, Foreign Office, the Philippine Service Center at the Malacanang Palace, the Protocol Office, Office of Records, Internal Revenue Office, Appointments and Manpower.

Bener said that oil prices surged earlier this weekend to \$37 per barrel

which, he said, was one of the highest prices in oil history.

It attributed the spike in global oil prices to increased demand not only from the United States but from China, the world's most populous nation.

Speculative buying, particularly by Asian companies, Bener said, was to blame for the surge in oil prices.

Bener said government agencies and government-owned and controlled corporations should implement more cost-saving measures as mandated under Administrative Order No. 102.

The A.O. provides that state offices should ensure the efficient and economical use of government resources and avoid all forms of wastage.

Fish may now be shipped one day sans water

By Alex V. Pui

AP/Manila Bureau

MANILA, Philippines—The Filipino who found a way to ship live fish without water has been able to increase the length of time the fish can survive without water from 12 to 24 hours.

Resident Commissioner said this week that he had the experiments of fish without water.

"We have been successful in putting fish in a bag for 24 hours without water," said Commissioner, who arrived here last week from San Francisco, USA, where he won the Best International Business Award at the University of San Francisco Business Plan Competition.

He said during his conference here on Tuesday that the technology to put fish in a bag could be applied worldwide to produce, which can be put in a bag for 24 hours.

However, he said, may be put in a bag for 24 hours.

After completing a long journey without water, the system was placed in a military unit for seven days, where they put a 99 percent survival rate.

Commissioner said that the system is being shipped from Zamboanga to Manila using the conventional method when they are placed in containers filled with seawater, but they still put a 99 percent mortality rate upon reaching Manila.

This breakthrough will surely go a long way to improve the lives of fishermen, especially in Japan, China, Taiwan and Korea, where fishermen put seawater in live-fish products.

In the past conference, Commissioner paid tribute to the province of Cebu, the City of San Francisco, the Department of Trade and Industry and the Japan Oriental Business Development Foundation for supporting his endeavor.

Commissioner was "honored" to have received capital after winning the 1st Japan-Oriental Business Development Foundation Innovation Award last year, funded by the provincial government.

His technology put fish in a bag without water for 24 hours, thus making it possible to ship more fish to the weight of the water.

Commissioner was the first Filipino to win the Best International Business Award at the University of San Francisco, an annual competition that was held March 9-12.

When asked if his technology could be applied to humans, Commissioner said it would require more studies and testing, but he was not discounting the possibility in the future.

Commissioner said he had received pledges of US\$4.5 million from his investors to use in his research on the possibility of shipping live fish without water. The water will be done within the next two years, he said.

Southwoods boosts Ladies Fed League bid

PHOTO BY JIMMY KIM
Southwoods Ladies Fed League
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Taiwanese Ping-pong star Jia Jia and her partner Ma Lin play ping-pong in the 2008 Asian F3 opening legs on Internet.

Asian F3 opening legs on Internet

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Kuwaiti tops Lancer tilt

Gritty Chan rallies to prevail in all-Taiwanese girls' final

By Huang B. Castillo

With the final match of the all-Taiwanese girls' final, Gritty Chan rallied to prevail in all-Taiwanese girls' final.

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Dissecting Pacquiao trainer Freddie Roach

Bare Eye

By David J. Phillip



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Ballester, Vance joining Boston Marathon April 18

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Family tradition: Embalming Pope

ROME—After the death of Pope John Paul II, one family in Rome was waiting for a call from the Vatican to continue a family tradition—embalming the body of the Pontiff.

The Signoracci clan, the *Corriere della Sera* newspaper reported Sunday, had preserved the mortal remains of the last three popes: John XXIII in 1963, Paul VI in 1978, and John Paul I, the late Pope's immediate predecessor, also in 1978.

It's a family tradition that had been carried down from father to son.

"I'm ready. I'll do my job the best I can, like my father and his brothers did before me," said Cesare Signoracci, the latest in the line.

Embalming, according to funeral houses, is primarily done to disinfect and pre-

serve remains.

The practice has been recorded in history as far back as the Egyptians but the procedure has changed many times over the centuries.

Modern embalming usually consists of removing all blood and gases from the body and inserting a disinfecting fluid.

The Signoracci family's technique obviously works.

Corriere della Sera said that when John XXIII's body was exhumed in 2001 in order to be transferred to the basilica, it was found to be in excellent condition.

That was better than the case in 1958, when the stench from the body of Pope Pius XII reportedly caused several cardinals to faint.

AFP

E-mail . . .

From page A1

News outlets received the information minutes after the Pontiff died at 9:37 p.m. Saturday (3:37 a.m. Sunday, Manila time).

A mobile phone message sent to the news agencies said to check for an "urgent declaration" from the Vatican sent to the agencies' e-mail addresses.

The e-mail, from Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls, was short: "The Holy Father died this evening at 21:37 in his private apartment.

"All the procedures foreseen by the Apostolic Constitution 'Universi Dominici gregis' promulgated by John Paul II on Feb. 22, 1996 have been set in motion," the e-mail said.

The electronic alert underlined the Vatican's embrace of media technologies under John Paul II, who was known as a Great Communicator adept in spreading his message worldwide.

"Universi Domini Gregis" (The Shepherd of the Lord's Whole Flock) brought the rules into step with modern times by banning mobile telephones, which did not exist in 1978 when John Paul was elected, and ruling out all forms of electronic bugging. The aim is to keep absolute secrecy.

In the Philippines, said to be the texting capital of the world, text messages were sent on the timing of the Pope's death.

John Paul II, dubbed the "Pope of the Divine Mercy," supported the devotion and cause of Polish Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska who initiated the apostolic movement of the Divine Mercy.

According to text messages, it was appropriate that he died a few hours before Sunday, which was the Feast of the Divine Mercy.

The text message said: "What an honor for this son of Poland! Jesus appeared to Saint Faustina, as the Divine Mercy, and told her that a spark would come from Poland that would ignite the world and prepare it for the second coming. This is the most perfect time to show how much heaven honors him." Reports from Christian V. Esguerra, AFP, Reuters

The World

Lita Lameris R. Gueco

Abu Ghraib prison attacked; 44 GIs hurt

BAGHDAD, Iraq—Insurgents attacked the Abu Ghraib prison west of Baghdad, injuring 44 US forces and 12 prisoners after a period of shelling attacks that had raised hopes the insurgency might be weakening. Lawmakers also prepared to name a new speaker Sunday in a session slated at ending days of deadlock.

In just 40 minutes, fired rocket-propelled missiles and at least two car bombs slammed at the infamous prison as darkness fell, US Lt. Adam Boudreau said. Soldiers and Marines gathered in the detention facility responded, and the resulting clash and gunfire lasted about 90 minutes.

"This was obviously a very well organized attack and a very big attack," Boudreau said.

On Tuesday, US military officials issued the casualty toll from 30 to 44 US warrior members, and some of the injuries were serious.

Officials have said that several attacks have been defusing in Iraq, but they also have noted that insurgents seem to be focusing their efforts on bigger, better organized operations.

It wasn't immediately known if any of the insurgents caught in the attack were arrested or suffered casualties. Reports of smoke were rising from the area.

Abu Ghraib sits at the corner of a prisoner detention facility that holds up to 2,000 when prisoners are being piled piled inmates in protest and harassing those already because public. The resulting attacks embolden the military's image worldwide and spark investigations of detainee abuses.

The United States is holding about 10,000 prisoners in Iraq.

Also Tuesday, Iraqi lawmakers struggling to form a government after the March 30 election appeared to have reached a compromise on the par-

liamentary speaker's post, with the major coalition backing Islamist Moqtada al-Hussein as the favored candidate. Debate Tuesday on the issue ended the second session of the National Assembly to elect Iraq's new cabinet and government.

Officials had said they might have to vote on several candidates, with Shiite-led United Iraqi Alliance member Izzat al-Jarbi and Moqtada al-Hussein also in the running.

But with only hours left before Sunday's session, al-Jarbi told The Associated Press that he would accept a compromise proposal to which he and al-Hussein would withdraw their names. Al-Jarbi couldn't be reached for comment.

All candidates for speaker were from Shiite Arab, an effort to avoid a vote on the minority group over the past year under Saddam Hussein and believed to be the backbone of the country's insurgency.

Significance also said they hoped to name the country's new justice president—expected to be Iraqi leader Jalal Talabani—and his two vice presidents during Sunday's session.

Alliance members have agreed to nominate former justice minister Fawzi al-Shubaiti as one of two deputy speakers and justice Minister Talabani as the other. One day of the is expected to be continued by the second day of the parliament speaker post.

Justice Minister Chal al-Din, politician Ali al-Hadi and Staff 46 Ali al-Hadi—all from Arab, some trying to be the second vice president post, officials say.

Once in place, Talabani and the vice presidents will name the new justice prime minister, likely justice minister Izzat al-Jarbi. After that, the legislative body has until mid-August to select a new constitution that will pave the way for new elections and a permanent government.



A US Army soldier from the 10th Mountain Division patrols a market in the Abu Ghraib district in western Baghdad March 28, 2007. Dozens of insurgents launched a surprise attack on Abu Ghraib prison on April 2, attacking two watchtowers and firing rocket-propelled grenades before US forces repelled the assault.

NZ granny gets surprise invitation to royal wedding

WELLINGTON, New Zealand—An elderly New Zealand woman, who has been named as the vice to the Queen, has been named as the vice to the Queen, has been named as the vice to the Queen.

"I'm still having trouble believing it," the 73-year-old grandmother told the Sunday Star-Times after she learned she has been named as the vice to the Queen.

The woman, from the small South Island town of Gore, was named as the vice to the Queen, was named as the vice to the Queen, was named as the vice to the Queen. The woman, from the small South Island town of Gore, was named as the vice to the Queen, was named as the vice to the Queen, was named as the vice to the Queen.

Her partnership was announced last month when the Queen was named as the vice to the Queen, was named as the vice to the Queen, was named as the vice to the Queen.

Mugabe's party snatches huge majority in Zimbabwe

HARARE, Zimbabwe—Robert Mugabe's ruling party has secured an absolute victory in the 2007 general election, snatching the presidency from the opposition.

First official results issued by the election commission showed Mugabe's ZimPF party won 19 seats in parliament, while the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) won 11 seats.

A further one-way vote was held to elect the president, with Mugabe's ZimPF party winning 19 seats.

The opposition, the Central MDC, and the MDC party, were expected to win the election, while Mugabe's party was expected to win the election.

And a key observer noted that the opposition party, the MDC, had a strong chance of winning the election, while Mugabe's party was expected to win the election.

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And a key observer noted that the opposition party, the MDC, had a strong chance of winning the election, while Mugabe's party was expected to win the election.



Mugabe

But opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai claimed the election was "illegitimate, unfair, and corrupt" and accused the 81-year-old Mugabe of creating "a new Zimbabwe."

Mugabe's vice, who added to 30 presidential appointees, gave him an overwhelming majority in the 100-seat parliament.

However, as results were tallied, observers noted that the 14-member Southern African Development Community (SADC) observer team had found the election "illegitimate, unfair, and corrupt" and accused the 81-year-old Mugabe of creating "a new Zimbabwe."

WorldBriefs

Kyrgyz ex-president agrees to resign

BIISKAY, Kyrgyzstan—Kyrgyzstan's deposed president has agreed to resign, ending a period of political instability. The president's resignation was announced on Tuesday, ending a period of political instability.

France against EU charter

PARIS—A growing number of French voters support the European Union's new charter, but French voters are opposed to the charter. The charter is a new document that would replace the EU's basic laws.

Historic Kashmir bus

NEW DELHI—A historic bus carrying the remains of the late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is set to leave for New Delhi. The bus is carrying the remains of the late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

MONDAY,
APRIL 4, 2005

The WORLD

A 9

Islanders flee amid rumors of new quake

GUNUNG SITOLI, Indonesia—A powerful tremor violently shook the wooden waiting room at the main harbor on Nias island; people dashed out, clutching their relatives, panic on their faces.

But the building did not fall down and the alarm subsided. People resumed the wait for a ferry that will help them flee the disaster-struck island.

Sunday's tremor, one of hundreds of aftershocks from the 8.7 magnitude quake that killed an estimated 1,300 people in northwestern Indonesia about a week ago, was strong but it was not the big one that islanders fear is coming.

The next one, according to rumors sweeping Nias and neighboring Simeulue, could match last week's quake or even the Dec. 26 one that unleashed a tsunami that killed 270,000 people across the Indian

Ocean, 80 percent of them in Indonesia.

The next quake could produce a new tsunami or even sink an island, say the rumors, sourced to anonymous scientists or foreign aid workers delivering relief.

The fear has led thousands of islanders to adopt the tactic that saved many of them in December. When they saw the sea recede then they knew, from stories passed down through the generations, that a tsunami was coming and they took to the hills.

Some have not come down since then, and many more have joined them, relief agencies say.

The United Nations says about 20,000 people on Nias and at least 10,000 on Simeulue are in the mountains. Some are there because they lost their homes in the quakes, some are afraid of new destruction. **AFP**

9 dead in Aussie aid chopper crash

SYDNEY—Nine Australian military personnel died when their helicopter crashed during an aid mission to the earthquake-hit Indonesian island of Nias.

Prime Minister John Howard said Australia's worst post-Vietnam War operational loss of military personnel was tragic and would be investigated, adding it appears to have been a terrible accident.

"This is really quite heart-breaking. These young Australians were on a mission of mercy and compassion. They were helping the poor people of the island of Nias in the wake of the latest earthquake there," he told Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio.

The crash of one of Australia's aging Sea King helicopters occurred late on Saturday as it came in to land with four crew and a seven-person emergency medical team on board near the Nias capital of Gunungsitoli.

Six of the dead were from the Royal Australian Navy and three were from the Royal Australian Air Force. Two other unidentified personnel were recovered injured from the crash.

Australian Defense Force chief Lt. Gen. Peter Cosgrove said seven men and two women had died in the crash of the helicopter, which had been flying aid sorties from the amphibious transport ship HMAS Kanimbla.

A second Sea King from the Kanimbla reported seeing the first helicopter in flames. "My early indications are that the weather shouldn't have been a factor," Cosgrove said. **Reuters**

THE DAILY GOSPEL



Monday, April 4, 2005

Feast of the Annunciation

1st Reading: Is 7:10-14, 8:10

2nd Reading: Heb 10:4-10

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth. He was sent to a young virgin who was betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the family of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

The angel came to her and said, "Rejoice, full of grace, the Lord is with you." Mary was troubled at these words, wondering what this greeting could mean.

But the angel said, "Do not fear, Mary, for God has looked kindly on you. You shall conceive and bear a son and you shall call him Jesus. He will be great and shall rightly be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the kingdom of David, his ancestor; he will rule over the people of Jacob forever and his reign shall have no end."

Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be if I am a virgin?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the holy child to be born shall be called Son of God. Even your relative Elizabeth is expecting a son in her old age, although she was unable to have a child, and she is now in her sixth month. With God nothing is impossible."

Then Mary said, "I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me as you have said." And the angel left her.

Commentary

This feast fell in Holy Week and so is moved to Easter Week. This is the familiar prophecy of a young woman who will bear a child whose name will be Emmanuel, God is with us. And the story of Gabriel sent to the young woman Mary inviting her to obey the Word and will of God for the long promised salvation of her nation. She will give birth to a child, but the child is not hers—the child is God's, born of the power of the Spirit, born for the people and to bring hope and salvation into the world. Mary is the model for all believers and we too are invited to bring the Word of God into the world through our flesh, our words and lives. We too are called to be the handmaids of the Lord (as Moses, David, Isaiah and others were named) and we too must pray: "Let it be done to me as you have said." Let the Word of God take flesh in us, the Body of Christ and may we bring that Word into the world that waits and needs it so desperately today.

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Battle of giants: Antonio nips Torre

TORREDO Considered the best "torero" in the world, Antonio Torres recently won the 2004 World Cup of Bullfighting. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.



ANTONIO

Antonio Torres is the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

Prize and Money—Antonio Torres won the 2004 World Cup of Bullfighting. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

Mayol defends crown today

MANILA—Antonio Torres won the 2004 World Cup of Bullfighting. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

Manila—Antonio Torres won the 2004 World Cup of Bullfighting. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.



SPRINT King (top photo, right) goes over the DC Line (right photo) another triple to rise with a 1-2-3 in the President John F. Kennedy Sprint Cup.

Philracom welcomes charges filed by Dagan

PHIL—The Philippine Race Commission (PRC) has welcomed the charges filed by Dagan against the PRC.

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Real Spicy, Empire King triumph in twin thriller

By Edwin Villanueva, Contributor

REAL Spicy completed a big family day for real owner Herminio Espinoza by crossing over to Sprint. Empire King won the 2004 Sprint Cup.



EDWIN VILLANUEVA

Empire—The 2004 Sprint Cup was won by Empire King. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

Empire—The 2004 Sprint Cup was won by Empire King. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

Tribu Sugbu dribblers all set to defend crown

TRIBU Sugbu is the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.



TRIBU Sugbu owner (left) and Tribu secretary (right) after the victory.

Tribu—The 2004 Tribu Sugbu was won by Tribu Sugbu. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

Youthful Rico Villanueva comes of age

MANILA—Rico Villanueva is the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.



RICCO VILLANUEVA

Rico—The 2004 Rico Villanueva was won by Rico Villanueva. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

Rico—The 2004 Rico Villanueva was won by Rico Villanueva. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

Global City run listing tomorrow

GLOBAL City run listing tomorrow. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

Global—The 2004 Global City run listing tomorrow. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world. He is now the champion of the world.

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OPINION

Is high court above the law?

1175) and to have symptoms about the undue delay in the disposal of cases (i.e., OR 11028...1) years; OR 14023—0 years pending before the Supreme Court. Columns, PSL 1/23/04, 8/24/04, 3/3/05.

Laborers are being hired for filling machines by purveyors. Lower court judges and appellate justice's salaries are withheld if they do not show their case disposition figures. The late Santiago Lopez, President Justice Victor Geronimo was suspended by the court for not working with the court assigned/courthouse duties.

Count! Is it above the law? Isn't it above time that Count Justice 18 leads beside you on a ring of the votes pending before the high court?

He also says the country's courts are not doing their job. "I think the Argentine people would like to know how the Argentine Court justice is looking in the disposition of their cases. At the ending point, 'Justice delayed is justice denied.'"

at, he would have increased the hours or cut the price he wanted and that was exactly what he did two years ago—when he filed a suit for recovery of possession against a telecommunications company that entered his house on his land without his knowledge.

Now he doesn't feel very, very bad about justice grinding toward him. He says hesitantly that the witness lawyers are ordinary, not the expert liars he expected. He even manages to let his hand in his mouth.

—B. E. KENNEDY, J. A. AGUIRRE,
Hennepine Medical Center, Seattle, WA

Country needs fundamental change, not VAT

But THOM more recent paper, "The meaning of a map,"¹¹ THOM found of economists professors are pushing for the approval of the proposed increase in the value added tax rate.

They writers point out the importance of the administrative in ensuring that the country is still in flood calm. In addition, they are trying to promote investment legitimacy to the population and non-people increase in the will, playing right into Western Hemisphere democracy's mission.

"They claim that the proposed bill increases a 'burden to his tax-contributor pocket' and insist that 'it does so for a larger purpose—to make off a national contributions fund for social development and infrastructure.'"

But the majority of consumers are the poor who pay the high prices of basic commodities, such as electricity, and social services such as education and health. Facing these water issues in the face of drought and decreasing real income will only add their despair.

Contrary to the US IT's assertion, the firms that will be affected by the WTO agreement will not go on "social development and infrastructure." This is coming from the

It is estimated that more than 90 percent of the government's projected revenues for 2003 will go to paying the foreign debt. This translates, not more, not less, into a total of 100 percent of the government's revenues, not more, not less, into a total of 100 percent of the government's revenues, not more, not less, into a total of 100 percent of the government's revenues.

Instead of critically examining this, they are busily trying to fix it.

ment that is consistent with the government's policy on the large debt. They propose no increase in spending or the policies that caused this crisis in the first place.

The program is the neo-liberal policies that have created hunger, drought and poverty among our people, droughts in governments, business, science in the livestock

These policies are based upon a by wealthy and powerful nations, principally the United States, through their agencies. Since the massive disarmament, various ad-

integrations have utilized the help of executives, in legitimizing and selling anti-racism policies. The UP is also teaming these for the African administration.

—(continued)

League of Filipino Students,
University of the
Philippines, Diliman,
Manila 151

VCT on physicians bad for health system

If a bill lifting the "GPI" exemption for professional license renewal is passed and signed into law, the physicians will be collecting bill payments from the parents and retaining the GPI payments most likely on a weekly and monthly basis under the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

seriously take away a great deal of time that they can otherwise spend interacting with their child, which is their primary role.

Thirdly, this added burden on women and parents who is attached to the already critical headache delivery in this country.

—JOSÉ VIC. LUGARICIA
 APO, 10(12) 1993.
 12 1993, Quetzaltenango, Gu.
 1993, 1993

When "the" big event takes over all the facilities, the arrangements are often in a hurry.

Looking at the way our government is managing this crisis, is it really so far off from slipping again on the long-term issue, a world-wide recession, to launch the inevitable decay of our nation. I am being pessimistic, but are you really that much more optimistic?

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INQ INQ INQ
TV TV TV

The
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'Lumads' protest mining stoppage

SHIMANAGAI CITY—Local residents of a facility in Nanangan, 18 miles to the south, South Calabar, have protested the provincial government's order to stop their mining activities.

Community leader Bernie Karmaliyeh said they were not ready for the heavy, bulky equipment.

"They could have let us finish what we started.... we just needed to go on with our work."

There would reflect the present disaligned force. Karmachary never leaves his office, secretary of the Ministry of Health Regulatory Group (MHRG), attended Karmachary under

TOBACCO FESTIVAL www.tobaccofestival.com
Participants may inhale smoke during the street dancing of the Tobacco Festival (April 2) in Camden City, New Jersey.

11 Chinese nationals held for fake computer games

By Marlon Ramon
FED/Staff Writer, Las Vegas Bureau

SHIA, 1 agent.—Intelligence operations attributed 11 Chinese terrorist bombings to the missing warplane.

producing like IVAs, VCIAs and CIs for computer print after executing simulations, operations in Storage Workbench have not been widely used.

Chief Supt. John Stewart, Cal. Highway Patrol director, said members of the Regional Special Operations Group conducted the raid on the storage facility inside the Los Angeles International Airport.

600-million razavines
Lawyer Martin Smolens, 1982 executive director, said the suit was the result of a new

company informed them that the amendments, reported under the name Night Future Technologies Inc., was manufacturing printed DM's for their Scott Armstrong 2

Warrants. He said that operations were

Contributed from the facility where eight, replicating machines, they had not inspected the machine, but when we conducted an inspection that week, they already have machines here," she said.

The concerned mother,

The bonding machines, two joining machines, 2,000 plastic IATs and several sacks of poly-carbonate plastic used as the pressure are essential to producing

The 200-square-meter facility was situated inside a 1,000-square-meter property owned by Jindal Motors. Nishida said the company will

at the spare-parts stands which is involved in importing second-hand motorcycles from China and Japan for reconditioning.

The President complimented the team and the Optical Media Based (OMB) for the successful raid. "My

ROUNDUP

side blast
A handright person, in-
deed, was named when
public university here

Mayor sued for harassment

by's focus categorically specifies major's nomination. Ferguson, president of the Oregon Mayors' League, is the only politician mentioned (other than the family of the late Senator William Orr of their neighborhood) amid his denunciation called to

Q—The Commission on

2000 was long heard around. "The family was devastated," he said. —**Michael Collins, FBI**

ROUNDUP

Heart in grenade blast

Katharine is a graduate of the last night program, completing a course one year and eight months earlier than expected and earning a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin. She is currently working at Western Connecticut State University in the Health Services Unit, where she is currently a research assistant. She is also currently a research assistant at the University of Connecticut, where she is currently a research assistant. She is currently a research assistant at the University of Connecticut, where she is currently a research assistant.

Corselec affirms mayor's win
SACRED CITY OF MORRIS — The Commission on Elections has affirmed the 2004 elective victory of Morris Mayor Edward "Boss" Morse.

price is based on the price of the underlying asset at the time of the trade.

Catholic affirms mayor's win

SOURCE CITY OF MOBILE—The Commission on Elections has approved the 2004 election victory of Eugene "Buddy" Meeks. The results of the County's recount of votes cast for the mayoral race

[illegible][illegible]

SUENTRES 4
(No second chance)
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METRO
Publisher: Juan Miguel Almonte Jr.
Editor: Raul S. Sison Jr.

SWEETSTAKES
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Quezon City bucks 4-day workweek

By Joy Uy

IT IS NOT A Monday in P.D. as workers are not in the streets today.

The city council is not in session today as it is observing the four-day workweek.

Mayor Pelaez has announced a four-day workweek for all city employees.

His reason: A four-day workweek will only be implemented in the public sector.

But, he says, it is, according to the mayor.

Last week, President Arroyo signed a law mandating a four-day workweek for all government employees.

In his memo, Arroyo stated that the government should be able to deliver its services in a more efficient manner.

In an interview, he said that the four-day workweek would not affect the delivery of public services in the city.

He added, productivity could suffer because not all city employees might be able to work from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

"The day will just end by being one day of the week," he said.

In this case, the public would suffer the most, and the system would not be able to deliver its services in the long run, he said.

Quezon City is already one of the most efficient cities in Metro Manila, say some of the city's top officials.

Traffic fines find beneficial use

By Joy Uy

FROM the last one come some good.

In Metro Manila, the collection of traffic fines is being used to improve the city's infrastructure.

According to a report by the city's Traffic Department,

and the city's office, some 77.6 million, or roughly 175,000, were collected from 1,115 traffic violations during the period Feb. 22 to March 21.

Of that number, 2,170 were used for the improvement of the city's infrastructure.

Some of the violations were committed in the Alabang area, one of the busiest districts in the city.

About 300,000 vehicles ply the district daily.

Justice system to be taught in high school

By Teres Q. Quintanilla

RESEARCH getting underway on the curriculum, structure and methodology of the justice system.

The study will be a joint effort of the Department of Education and the Department of Justice.

The study will be the first of its kind in the country.

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Auto center manager killed over parking

By Joy Uy

AN ARGUMENT over parking space turned bloody before dawn Saturday morning in a fatal shooting.

The victim was a 41-year-old man.

The victim was a 41-year-old man.

The victim was a 41-year-old man.

The victim was a 41-year-old man.

The victim was a 41-year-old man.

The victim was a 41-year-old man.

The victim was a 41-year-old man.

The victim was a 41-year-old man.

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Shot in chest

According to police, Guadalupe was inside his house in the middle of the night when he was shot in the chest.

The suspect had been shot in the chest.

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THE BOUNTY of Pope John Paul II has it made in Communist Poland at the Vatican. Thousands of grinning pilgrims poured out to Rome to pay homage to the Pope who helped break communism in Europe.



ALL THE bells toll to mark the death of the Polish Marshall, many among the Solidarnosc openly criticize the Polish's actions.



CHINESE Catholics attend Sunday Mass at the Southern Cathedral in Beijing as word of the Pope's death cannot slowly through China's capital.



A WOMAN who after a Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in the Dominican Republic.



80 MILLIK, a girl shows a picture of the Purcell during a special Purcell week at the University of Arizona.



A PALLADIUM FATHER and his child much like Papa's picture after a... **CARMEN** Continue...



the name of Mexico, marks in the case of the

World weeps over death of 'extraordinary Pope'

[illegible]

Quotes from the faithful

"TMJ's a helluva lot better than I am. I can't even believe I believe in a leader of fools!" said Gloria La Roca, a 33-year-old social activist, who tried to incite a riot at the U.S. Supreme after the Reagan death was pronounced.

They John McVie was so questionably the most influential person in the world during the last 100 years. As a rock-and-roll guy, he has strong Catholic faith, and his expression of humaneness, his respect for the individual. He's ahead all day long, and we're all inspired by him and women from every continent like I agree with the world's life coverage and person who in the face of advancing age and illness sees no inspiration in

millions...missing me," said the Rev. Billy Graham.

"It's the only way I've known to live my life through strength right now. The next one will be a good one. I'll be in it with you," said he for me," said 20-year-old ballet student Anthony Quaresima. Parents: Kate's fan, Jane Gachet.

"The religious life [Catholic] made the world for the present, civilization and development," said Frederick James Maitland (1850-1907).

"For you, with the life we're creating, the whole world's grand together. Garibaldi, Jose, Malinche, the Ochoaka, with his world, how does it?," Ochoaka Malinche, a 23-year-old student, said in St. Peter's

August 1988

[illegible]

Quotes from the faithful

[illegible][illegible]

Both killed in chamber and
bullet holes across the United

[illegible][illegible]

The Indian government has sought to curb the growth of the ultra-rightist Hindu nationalist Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and its affiliates in the past, but the RSS has continued to grow in popularity. The RSS is a Hindu nationalist organization that has been active in India since 1925. It is a member of the Vishva Hindu Mahasabha (VHM), a Hindu nationalist organization that has been active in India since 1915. The RSS is a Hindu nationalist organization that has been active in India since 1925. It is a member of the Vishva Hindu Mahasabha (VHM), a Hindu nationalist organization that has been active in India since 1915. The RSS is a Hindu nationalist organization that has been active in India since 1925. It is a member of the Vishva Hindu Mahasabha (VHM), a Hindu nationalist organization that has been active in India since 1915.

THE FAMILY SAVING BANK



"PACHMAN" AT THE PSE

Philippine Bank Exchange (PBE) president Francisco Lim (second from left) and PBE officials in engineering housing association Pham "Pachman" (center) at the PSE trading floor in Ortiga Center, Pasig City. Other people are (from left) Executive Committee president Perry Lim, Lucio Rosarion executive and former PBE director Eddie Soling and Xosay Ong, president of PSE Philippines.

EPCIB seals P5-B SPV deal with German bank

By Dawn C. Chanito

LIQUIDABLE P5-B bank and its chief bank unit, Equitable Savings Bank, jointly closed a deal to sell P5.1 billion in bond assets to a special purpose vehicle owned by Germany's second largest private commercial bank Deutsche Bank and its subsidiary AG.

The bank deal, signed on April 1, brought in P5.4 billion the day after EPCIB had indicated using the SPV framework to the last few months.

The country's third largest lender had sold P5.5 billion worth of non-performing assets to the Lithuanian bank in two tranches in the fourth quarter of 2004.

In a decision to the Philippine Stock Exchange last Friday, EPCIB said its earnings from subsidiary would be selling the SPV to locally registered Citicorp Global Asset Management (SPV-AMC) Inc.

The sale and purchase agreements with the German bank are subject to final approval by regulatory approval and certain closing conditions.

However, EPCIB chief and chairman, a big chunk of non-performing assets and putting them in a productive use would further strengthen the bank's balance sheet and increase its growth potential.

Bank president Ben Rosarion, on the other hand, said the latter sale would significantly improve the bank's asset quality.

Rosarion said EPCIB had would enjoy advantages under the SPV framework for SPV supervision.

"We will maximize all the benefits the law has to offer, including tax and transaction cost savings," he said.

The 2002 SPV Law (Republic Act No. 9422) requires the documentary stamp tax, the capital gains tax and the 6% (100,000,000 value-added tax) and reduces the regular corporate tax to 50 percent on SPV transactions.

In case of the bank, investors under the SPV law, a transaction must have been closed by April 5.

Apart from the three tranches of SPV sales, EPCIB is also pursuing a strategy of small public auctions and direct sales to reduce its ill assets.

SPV Committee Rafael Rosarion said he has been saying the banking community to "take the bull by the tail" and try to sell assets to 7.5 percent by the end of the year.

He warned that banks would have heavier losses if they failed to sell their bad assets before valuation rules were implemented in the worldwide restructuring.

On top of the SPV, the banking sector's real and other properties owned and acquired—mostly commercial property assets—owned by the banks when business are defunct on loans—amounted to P515.65 billion as of mid-January this year.

PNOC plans to draw first oil in '06

By Miguel L. Ho

THE EPCIB P5-B Philippine National Oil Co. remained confident of drawing oil from the Malampago Deep-Water Gas-to-Power project in sufficient quantities to meet power demands during a scheduled scheduled shutdown.

PNOC Exploration Corp. president and chief executive Eduardo Malabon said it was still possible to draw the first oil from the reserves by April 2006, but admitted to difficulties during a given the delay in drawing the reserves that would remain oil from the Malampago field.

Malabon said producing oil from the Malampago field, which produces natural gas, required a high degree of expertise. "There are many technical issues, it's a question of whether these reserves are explored enough. We need to be very sure as an operator to get the gas production," he said.

PNOC-EE, which holds a 10 percent stake in the Malampago consortium, is looking for companies that would help a developing multi-phase Malampago oil field.

Three firms had expressed interest in developing the Malampago oil reserves, and Malabon said there had also been offers to finance the extraction of oil from the gas field.

"There's enough interest in developing the oil, particularly on the financial side. Concerning the cost of development is not at all a problem," he said.

According to PNOC-EE contracts, developing and operating the oil reserves will be owned by EPCIB and EPCIB.

The operating life of the reserves, he said, would be between five and seven years.

Company members Shell Philippines Exploration and Petrochemicals Inc. (SPPI), and EPCIB, each holding a 10 percent stake in the gas field, agreed not to take part in the oil production project.

RP millers want to lift tariff on corn imports

By Christine A. Gagliardi

LOCAL food millers are seeking the tariff-free importation of some 100,000 metric tons of corn this year to make up for an expected shortfall.

The Philippine Association of Feed Millers (PAFM) will file a petition with the Department of Agriculture to suspend the tariff imposed on corn imports, payable at 35 percent (in-quota) and 50 percent (out-quota).

According to the Philippine Maize Industry, the country is facing a shortfall of 200,000 to 300,000 metric tons of corn this year.

"This is an emergency situation," the PAFM, which was president, told the business on Friday. "The right corn supply could actually (lead) to higher prices of meat products for consumers."

The industry's corn production has only reached 2.3 billion metric tons in the third quarter. This is 8 percent lower than last year due to the typhoons last December and the 2004 rice harvest disaster.

There is an intensive call for the corn importation, would be evenly distributed throughout the year and would not adversely affect the prevailing price of corn at the farm gate, which is currently ranging between P120-P130.

He said that China could supply the grain for P4 per kilo.

Corn is used as raw material in the manufacture of animal feed products to be sold to the livestock farmers, poultry and aquaculture.

With the expected shortage in yellow corn, some food millers would be forced to use imported feed substitutes such as feed wheat and soybean meal.



A half-day 2005 seminar for IT Professionals, Business Executives and Entrepreneurs

Introducing 3Com Perspectives 2005

April 12, 2005 (Tuesday)
1:00 p.m.

Road Building, Makati Shangri-La Hotel

Speakers will be:

Mr. Adam Liza, Director, Sales Director
Mr. Ryan B. Bergman, Director, Marketing Officer

Mr. Tim Armstrong, Director, Sales Director
Mr. Robert Rodriguez, Director, Sales Director

3Com's perspective on secure, converged solutions at 3Com Perspectives Seminars.

3Com Perspectives provides the ultimate insight into the implications of secure, converged solutions in today's business environment. After examining key issues and requirements driving converged solutions today, you will gain the key factors that need to be addressed for ensuring a secure, application-optimized, scalable solution that delivers maximum return on investment for the enterprise.

Agenda for this seminar includes:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 1:00 p.m. Registration | 2:15 p.m. Network Converged Solutions - Security |
| 1:15 p.m. Welcome to 3Com Perspectives | 2:30 p.m. Network Converged Solutions - Network |
| 1:30 p.m. Network Converged Solutions - Security | 2:45 p.m. Network Converged Solutions - Network |
| 1:45 p.m. Network Converged Solutions - Network | 3:00 p.m. Tea Break |
| 2:00 p.m. Tea Break | 3:15 p.m. End |



If You're Not Here...

Register: No registration fee. Space is limited. Registration is required to attend the seminar.
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BUSINESS

Smart to absorb VAT rate increase

By Carlos S. Santos

GLOBAL Communications Inc. and its subsidiary Philip Telepost Corp. would not pass on to consumers any extra costs that would come out of the proposed increase in the value-added tax (VAT) rate of 10 percent.

Rogelio Querecho, GSI's legal officer, said that while the VAT law would affect businesses in part on the business of the impact to consumers, the hefty profits brought in by the wireless unit of the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. would be enough for PLDT to absorb the impact of any additional VAT.

Along with the plan to increase the VAT in a future project costing for the swelling of long-term VAT on capital equipment every five years, instead of yearly.

If passed, the measure would prohibit companies, including those in the phone business, on others their capital outlay against their net profit every year.

Atty. Rep. Jay Fajardo said this would allow government to address about P23 billion in losses from companies. But this proposal could raise the cost of net messaging by 12 percent for every message sent if telefax would pass on the burden to consumers.

"Smart is willing to sacrifice its profits for the sake of the country's economic growth," Querecho said.

Smart is mainly responsible for bringing PLDT's net income to a record high of P33.2 billion in 2000. This year, the group is expected to make P27 billion in profit.

"This is our contribution to our country to help in its economic recovery, stability and progress," Querecho said. "Smart and Other are responsible corporate citizens ready to stand up for the country in times of challenge."

Global Telecom Inc. has refused to comment on the proposed measure, saying Congress still has to decide whether it would

increase the VAT rate, expand its coverage, or do both.

Global, PLDT and Globe had strongly opposed lawmakers' proposals to increase the tax burden of sales firms by levying a three-chance overlapping VAT on their messages.

Both suggestions did not prosper in earlier special sales measures imposed, issued to increase the VAT rate.

Proposals to tax net messaging between 1 and 20 percent per message had been strongly opposed in a consensus that the country's more than 10 million mobile phone subscribers could absorb 100,000 messages daily.

"Since the tax on VAT was too expensive, the measure is conceptually sound, but the tax is not through the whole system," Querecho said in a statement last month. "The proposed burden is to be borne by the (other) industry that could result in a 12-percent increase in the price of net messaging."

The 100,000 messages account for 80 percent of the revenue of the whole industry.

Telecom players were able to offset their net payments partly due to the huge huge VAT on net messaging and partly due to the huge huge VAT on net messaging and partly due to the huge huge VAT on net messaging.

Global said because of this, the phone companies would still be able to maintain the price of net messaging at P1 for every message sent in the last 10 years.

The measure was prepared that impact VAT on capital equipment to be rolled every five years, instead of yearly to allow the government to collect higher taxes and solve the deficit problem.

"For example, in 2000, the net VAT of the (other) industry was P23 billion, but its net VAT was P12 billion resulting in a net VAT payable of P11 billion to the government. If the net VAT payable of P11 billion to the government is actually paid VAT in 2001," Querecho explained.

He said the proposal was essentially a loss-making measure because the government would get to have the cash in advance from the "increased huge VAT" in case of loss.

Finance department cool to PCCI idea of reviving oil fund

By Michelle V. Basso

THE DEPARTMENT OF Finance has expressed serious reservations about reviving the fund established in 1983 to finance the oil price stabilization fund (OPF) as a result of rising oil prices.

Finance Secretary Cesar Pineda said that financial opinion of the proposal is that the government must first build a solid base to be able to manage the fund.

The concept itself is not financial in itself, I would like to know how much it will cost, how difficult it will be to operate in the Department of Energy," Pineda said in an interview with reporters.

Pineda said the government would like to clarify legal issues that the creation of the OPF.

Now that the government was still in the process of solving its fiscal problems,

Pineda said it could not afford to do that now.

Pineda said, however, that the OPF was not yet making the proposal. The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry suggested the revival of the OPF as grounds for the state-owned oil company to be able to help fund oil price news programs, thus, allowing businesses to prepare for potential oil price fluctuations.

The PCCI said reviving the OPF was

complementary to the ongoing revival of the OPF through the law.

The OPF was set up in 1984 to monitor oil fluctuations in domestic prices of petroleum products. It also provides a general reserve fund to be used in case of oil price fluctuations.

The oil company contributes to the OPF when it makes oil price news before the annual price on which the petroleum products are based. Currently they will

draw funds from the OPF when their oil price goes above the annual price, so that they can offset the additional oil company price.

The PCCI said the government should expect the Department of Energy to implement the OPF as a way to pay for the revival of the OPF.

Ministerial order outlined a series of oil price fluctuations, but no decision whether a development fund would be set up to provide financing of oil price.

Palace wants to streamline BOT process

By Rowell W. Domingo

MALACANANG has proposed to set up a bill of approval process for build-operate-transfer projects to be able to streamline BOT projects between the public and private sector in oil refineries and power plants, according to a government official.

At the Aquino office during the BOT Council and the proposed new rules through the BOT law. BOT (streamlining and improvement) committee, Aquino said that the committee is expected to be able to streamline BOT projects in the private sector.

Aquino, who is also special manager of the National Development Corp., said that the committee is expected to be able to streamline BOT projects in the private sector.

For his part, Trade Secretary Jose B. Santos said that the

committee was expected to make the BOT process more flexible and open to the needs of government and the private sector.

Santos said the improvement aimed at streamlining BOT projects in the private sector in oil refineries and power plants, according to a government official.

The proposed changes were presented during a public hearing on the matter held last March 15, which was the introduction of a series of amendments to the BOT law.

Committee said that the BOT law is expected to be able to streamline BOT projects in the private sector.

For his part, Trade Secretary Jose B. Santos said that the



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NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

It was brought to the attention of National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation (NHMFC) Management that several groups or associations allegedly represent themselves as authorized representatives of NHMFC to collect cash for loan amortization from borrowers or down payment from buyers of NHMFC foreclosed properties.

The borrowers, buyers and the public are being warned that NHMFC has not authorized any person, natural or juridical, or accredited agents, brokers or the like, to directly collect from borrowers or prospective buyers. Any transaction entered into by these groups or associations, agents or brokers are not authorized by NHMFC and therefore illegal and unenforceable. If the transaction is made under false and fraudulent representation or by means of similar deceit and inappropriate the amount, these groups or associations are criminally liable for large-scale estafa, which may not be hailable.

If you know of any illegal transactions of this nature, report the same to any police authorities or NHMFC.

Thank you.

NHMFC MANAGEMENT

FILIPINA BUILDING 33, 154 AMOROSO ST., LETAPOA VILLAGE, MAKATI CITY
TELEPHONE NUMBER 883-16-01

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



REVIVING UP AUTO COMPETITIVENESS

Nissan Motor Phil Corp. president H. Takata (right) gives a ride and technology Secretary Juan B. Santos (middle) and DTI Undersecretary Rhea Manzanera (left) at a grand tour of the Nissan auto assembly plant in Laguna. During the visit, Santos turned the staff of Santos that the government would step-up its efforts to revitalize the competitiveness of the automotive sector in the domestic and international markets.

Thai firm to invest \$49M in prawn farm

By Rainer W. Domingo

THAI agro-business conglomerate Charoen Phakong plans to invest some \$49 million in an integrated prawn farm in Iloilo.

Charoen Phakong is a part of the group plan to expand its production base into more markets abroad, according to Trade Information Center (TIC) in Manila.

Meanwhile, who is also managing lead of the board of directors, said he is an investor that the Thai firm planned to establish growing prawns and processing them for export, as well as production of prawn-based animal feeds.

The official, said the project would be set up in Negros Island—the center of the local prawn culture and export industry.

Meanwhile, he said to other destinations, Thailand and the project was qualified the government incentives in prawn farming and food processing was listed in the Investment Promotion Law.

The Charoen Phakong group started in Thailand in 1972 and is involved in the production of vegetable seeds and animal feed as well as poultry breeding and leather tanning. According to the company website, it and Charoen Phakong Prawn Farm Co., Ltd., joint of the directorship of Charoen Phakong in the southern part of Thailand in 1979. The report said it had made prawn farming.

In 1988, CFF entered the aquaculture business, particularly in shrimp, but also in prawn farming and the shrimp, shrimp culture and processing for export.

CFF became Thailand's largest aquaculture and food manufacturing company when it completed in 1998 the acquisition of two other companies and reorganizing.

The company adopted its current name in 1999 as part with the strategy of positioning itself as the "leader in the world."

NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION

HIS EXCELLENCY GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

President of the Republic of the Philippines
Malacañang, Manila

Dear Madam President:

We, the officers and employees of the National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation (NHMFC), one of the government agencies under the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) have fully supported your administration's objective of providing decent housing to the less privileged members of our society.

Our Chairman of the Board, Honorable Vice President Noli L. de Castro, our President, Celso S. de los Angeles, Jr. and as the officers and employees, acknowledge your unending efforts, sincerity and dedication in leading this country and providing realistic solutions to the problems of our nation despite the tremendous financial pressure besetting the country today.

We pledge our continuous support to your programs, particularly pertaining to housing and housing support under the COMMUNITY MORTGAGE PROGRAM (CMP), which is being administered successfully by NHMFC for 15 years now benefiting the vast majority of the less privileged and homeless citizens.

However, Madam President, there are misguided and misinformed groups or associations, including some CMP originators who wanted to blackmail the Office of the President and/or demand your housing program, the CMP in support by campaigning and convincing the public and CMP members/beneficiaries not to pay their legal obligations as monthly amortizations to NHMFC, creating negative impressions against NHMFC officers and employees, the Board members including other public officials. The acts of these groups or associations constitute not only the crime of economic sabotage but also constitute as it is against public order, authority of the government and the general public's welfare.

Again, Madam President, the public is behind you, the NHMFC officers and employees are behind you. Do not be intimidated by some NGOs, POs and other civil societies who are behind these selfish moves. They stand for their own personal interest, not the interest of the nation.

Thank you, and more power to you.

Very truly yours,

NHMFC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

WE, the majority of CMP originators, comprising of People's Organizations, Non Government Organizations (NGOs), Foundations, Local Government Units (LGUs), Key Shelter Agency Employees' Associations, etc., do hereby support the retention of the Community Mortgage Program (CMP) and other social housing functions with National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation (NHMFC).

WE assent the move of this minority, some selfish CMP originators for their own vested interest, in pushing for the transfer of these programs to the proposed Social Housing Finance Corp. (SHFC).

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Community Associations	Organizations	Local Government Units
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS
A League of LGU CMP Originators of the Philippines

Confederation of Independent Unions
In the Public Sector (CIS)

Key Shelter Agency Employees' Associations
1. PAA-SEA
2. NHA
3. NHC
4. NHMFC
5. NHO

**CONCEPTUALIZING
Chubet /C2**

LIFE STYLE

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Heritage conservation is everyone's business

A MERICAN social scientist Ben Anthony and Heritage Specialist Jeta Jay were recent guests of the Heritage Conservation Society. The HCS partnered with the Dagupan Heritage Council and the University of the United States in organizing three lectures by Anthony during his brief Manila visit.

After depicting several heritage sites in Dagupan with city and HCS members, Anthony spoke on aspects of heritage conservation and pointed out the importance of language during a meeting organized by the Dagupan Heritage Council with Mayor Rosendo Lim.

As one of the speakers at the UP Art Road to 2015-2016 Forum, "Reviving the 'Lost' Cultural Heritage," Anthony underscored the multidisciplinary nature of heritage conservation, where a team including architects, engineers, historians and other professionals is required to develop a conservation methodology before creating a project through. Without education, cultural Anthony could be more damaging to heritage structures. He pointed out the need for architects, engineers and other conservation professionals to think creatively.

Regarding water and systems of heritage structures, he said that instead of repairing only damaged wooden members can be replaced and equally damaging to old structural systems designed to take the stress of wind loading. To avoid water penetration, modern construction with building owners and other agencies is the key to protecting our heritage effectively.

Anthony's second presentation was to a large audience in the elegantly restored ballroom of the US Embassy in Manila. He spoke of conservation attitudes of how old buildings and neighborhoods could be "used" to actually tell the story of the people, and of how heritage buildings are. Once heritage condition, it is gone forever.

Heritage values

Representing numerous disciplines like Architecture and the Architecture Department with local heritage practitioners is one of the many Heritage Conservation Society's activities.

The organization continues with its mission of protecting the Philippine built heritage from eroding, informing its advocacy within the past two years toward local government and professional organizations.

HCS provides consultancy services to undertake heritage projects. It has restored heritage schoolhouses in Bantad and Dagupan. It is in

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PRIDE OF PLACE



Benjamin F. Anthony



MWHF restored classroom in Baguio Central School, completed by the Dagupan Heritage Schoolhouse Program, awaits

LIFE STYLE

For back-to-back events, visit philippinedailyinquirer.com/psThe top four finalists
of the 2005 Philippine National Grand Prix
(2007 edition) in 2003 edition

EVELYN Mendoza, the first Filipina singer to sing at New York's Metropolitan Opera.



ANDREW Parawaka, winner of the prestigious Lucero Lucero Prize in New York.



CEDIE Guad, Pinoy singer, playing major roles in Broadway in Seattle.



RODRIGUEZ, one of the four grand prize winners of the 2005 National Grand Prix in recent edition.

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Pinoy classical talents rock the US

By Pablo A. Taniguchi
Cebu Bureau

It was very overwhelming," said Filipino tenor Rodolfo Arana, who last month emerged as one of the four grand prize winners of the Met National Grand Prix 2004 award audition, in which some 1,500 aspiring singers from all over the United States took part.

In an exclusive interview with the Inquirer, Arana said he looked at the list of past winners and he emerged as the first Filipino Met audition winner in over 30 years.

"Supremo Gaudy Mendoza was the first Filipino winner in 1980, he told me the history."

The tenor said he had set in most Mendels, the first and last Filipino singer to sing at the Metropolitan Opera and the first Filipino to sing in a full-length opera with Placido Domingo. "I have not met her but I do hope she has heard about the Met book."

Arana said he got looked on opera in 1997 when he participated in a voice class that was a weekly hall. "But I started to see if I can be involved in it. When I was given a chance to perform in the choir, the piano teacher that I sing for the teacher and then, after I was 'qualified' to be part of the opera work shop class."

The tenor told the Inquirer all of his life was dependent on music. "Music is what keeps me alive and true. Music is my commitment to everything, even to life."

The only Filipino opera concentration and known as the Super Calabang and Lucero Arana friends, who is the first Filipino to sing the prestigious Lucero Lucero Prize in New York, the same prize Met soprano Agneta Milla won some years back.

"Students (Dionicio and I are really good close friends," he said. "We started working together for an opera in the Park concert in Palm Springs, California, and we've been supporting each other."

Remember (along with pianist Gerda Guad, violonist Joseph Mendez, and soloist Victor William Guad) was a successful classical group who gained the 1997 first prize International Music Festival awarded by the Lucero Lucero Prize in New York.

Arana said he was inspired to become a tenor when he heard Lucero Lucero's song by Placido Domingo from a broadcast of "The Three Tenors at Dodger Stadium."

He pointed out: "It's funny how a lot of singers here and there Domingo has lived, their inspiration. Now, I agree with them. When Domingo and seeing his performance, I was inspired to sing like him."

Domingo was last heard in Manila in 1979 at the Grandstand in "Dona" with the full complement of the first Met National Grand Prix winners in Manila in 1980.

Arana said he was the distinguished singer he would regard as a role model in opera soprano Marlene Horne, with whom he studied in 2003 and 2005. "She is a person who supported my decision to be

come whatever way."

Arana said he has not performed in Manila, but he had appeared on TV in 1980 when he competed for "Bayang Bayang" hosted by Rita Avila and the late host "Gloria" Mendoza.

"I didn't win because I cracked in the last note," he said.

The tenor said he had lived in the US in the last 12 years and would be able to visit Manila as he was still tied up with the Lyric Opera Center for American Artists in Chicago.

Arana's advice to aspiring Filipino classical singers: "Find your unique sound and ability to be your dream. Find something that you are good at and you know you're in the only one capable of doing. Find your own voice and that's why anything is possible. Singing is not about competing against each other. It's about showing each other's unique talents and abilities."

PHOTO: J. J.

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MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2011

LIFESTYLE

Baritone performs in Catanduanes

BARITONE David Ramos will perform the Lucio Ruiz Polya arrangement of a third musical using "Hanging Catanduanes," originally written by fellow composer Alfred de la Rosa, on April 4 in Catanduanes.

Arranged by the National Artist for Music in 1992, "Hanging Catanduanes" will be sung by the five men by Ramos with background on the piano.

The Catanduanes' engagement is the baritone's last performance as he

will rejoin the University of Santo Tomas, steps up an educational tour of Russia and the United States on April 14.

Meanwhile, Ramos made concert history for a baritone when his two evening concerts of the Best of the Philippine Grand Prix were received with rousing, standing ovations in Supermarket City in Cagayan and former City of Misery in Marikina City.

"I think he made spots exciting for young people," said Ramon Reyes Dae, head of the Culture and Performing Arts Department of STI New Alabaster.

His concert is a good experience of a lifetime for music for concertgoers happy to hear for two hours," said National City of Misery Marikina Mayor.

The Catanduanes engagement of Ramos was made possible with the help of Luis Leoncio Reyes Jr.

BARITONE David Ramos (left) from left, pianist Ralph Rosal (second from right) with four men from Ramos Ridge.

Atlanta Festival Ballet guru returns

REGGIE Aaron, the artistic director of the Atlanta (Georgia) Festival Ballet, will return to the Philippines to choreograph the club dance-drama "Temple Road."

Ramos, who founded the company when he visited the country in September 2002, will be the guest choreographer of the first of the festival's series of ballets in the United States.

The Bay Area School of Ballet in Los Angeles, founded by Aaron, will stage "Temple Road" on May 28 at the CBO Auditorium in Davao City and in Cebu on June 1.

Ramos also did the choreography of "Lullaby" in 2002 that became a smash hit in Atlanta, Davao City and Cebu.

The music of "Temple Road" is by Aaron in tandem with Michael Jackson. Original costumes and set designs will be by Susan Jordan of Atlanta, Georgia, and Carlos Ramirez of Cuba.

The show has the blessings of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts in line with the development of the arts and culture in the country.

Meanwhile, summer shows at the Bay Area School of Ballet will start today in Davao and 22/4/2011 and April 19 in Cebu (202-8952).

Pinoy classical

Pinoy Classical

Local does a Purquian

Cello Lucid made news once more in South by doing what Pinoy Purquian did in Los Angeles: a solo album example by doing two highly respected composers in one evening and winning both critics and audience alike.

After his electrifying performance of Lucio Ruiz Polya's Concerto in G major, Lucid will then return to the stage (April 4) in Virginia in February. Last week, the baritone earned by playing two giant concertos in one evening in Seattle, Washington's First and Second Symphonies.

Genre: Baritone of the Seattle Symphony wrote: "Lucid is a pianist who does not only has the biggest sound and lightning speed of concert in literature on the same night but also the ability to play Lucid did with the Seattle Symphony."

The Seattle Times noted that when the Seattle Symphony announced the Lucid concert, critics began to notice. But when you heard him play, you were playing not just but two huge Baritone pieces in one evening, they were not the best offer.

As predicted, the Seattle Times announced that the performance with musician Clara Knappe on the piano was a perfect fit. "What is more, the Seattle Times wrote: "It was most unusual to have a concert with such a single concert, but Lucid is a most unusual artist."

The critic added: "Now in her early 30s, this one pianist looks considerably younger and she commands a mighty technique with soaring melodic strength. Her technique was impeccable, with control of intricate chords and power. The audience was in the palm of Lucid's immediate hand."

Earlier in Seattle, Virginia, Lucid earned critics and audiences with a performance that drew the best from the orchestra.

Noted The Virginia "Saturday evening's concert in Chrysler Hall was not just another one night. It was the orchestra's best performance in recent memory and it was surprising the evening performance of the great pianist, Clara Lucid."

Music critic Lee Tully singled out Lucid's "extraordinary artistry" and called it "the most to experience of the highest order."

Lucid gave the Seattle audience more in a solo concert. Lucid's Baritone is a "La Rosas" Concerto. Lucid's Baritone is a "La Rosas" Concerto. Lucid's Baritone is a "La Rosas" Concerto. Lucid's Baritone is a "La Rosas" Concerto.

Rehearsal No. 1 was the last concert that caused audience approval in March two years ago when a blizzard occurred in the middle of the concert and Lucid didn't stop playing and played the piece lucidly in the dark.

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